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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barry R. MATTHEWS *et al.*
Title: ANTIVIRAL LINEAR POLYMERS
Parent Appln. No. 09/230,189
Parent Filing Date: March 15, 1999
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

✓
Please cancel claims 1-16, without prejudice or disclaimer.

✓
Please add the following claims:

--17. An antiviral compound comprising a linear, non-carbohydrate polymer having a plurality of side chain groups, wherein at least one of said side chain groups has an anionic- or cationic-containing moiety bonded or linked thereto, wherein said anionic-containing moiety is selected from the group consisting of

- (i) aryl or arylalkyl anionic moieties;
- (ii) heteroaryl or heteroarylalkyl anionic moieties; and
- (iii) neuraminic or sialic acid-containing moieties which are modified by substitution in the 4-position thereof;

and said cationic-containing moiety is a quaternary nitrogen-containing moiety.